Non-utilizalition of water of Narmada river

†866. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to non-utilization of water of the Narmada river fully by Madhya Pradesh, the water goes in vain in the rainy season;

(b) whether the water going in van can be utilized for recharging ground water by diverting it towards Rajasthan and Saurashtra; and

(c) whether Government would formulate any plan so that this rain water could be fruitfully utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) has assessed utilized quantum of water of the Narmada at Sardar Sarovar Dam site on the basis of 75% dependability at 34537.44 MCM. The tribunal had allocated 22511.01 MCM to Madhya Pradesh, out of the so assessed utilizable quantum of Narmada Waters. Government of Madhya Pradesh has taken up several water resources development projects with regard to utilization of this allocated share of water. However, at present, the entire allocated share of water is not being fully utilized by Madhya Pradesh. In such a scenario, remaining water is flowing down to Sardar Sarover Reservoir. NWDT has prescribed that in the event of water being surplus, it should be utilized for generating power at Sardar Sarovar River Bed Power House (RBPH). NWDT has further decided that it is desirable that water which would go waste even without generating power at the last RBPH, should be allowed to be utilized by the party States to the extent they can. As such, adequate provision exists for utilizing surplus water which may be utilized by the concerned State Governments for recharging ground water by diverting it towards Rajasthan and Saurashtra.

Irrigation being a State subject the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities and the formulation of any such plan lies within the jurisdiction of the concerned State Governments within the provisions of NWDT award.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.